SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Social Work | Guest Speaker Evaluation Summary

Guest Speaker	Dr. Dana Bazemore-Jolly
Course	Field Seminar III
Date	October 1, 2026
Presentation	*The Law Changed. Did the Gaze? Policy, Identity, Professionalism, Bias & Social Work Practice*

Overall Student Feedback

Students responded very positively to Dr. Bazemore-Jolly's presentation and described the session as engaging, relevant, and easy to follow. They especially valued the way she connected her professional journey to direct practice, leadership, crisis response, supervision, doctoral education, and research. Students also appreciated her encouragement to remain open to career growth and to continue seeking opportunities that align with their professional goals.

Strengths Identified by Students

- Demonstrated strong knowledge of social work practice, leadership, and professional development.
- Maintained an engaging and conversational presentation style that kept students interested.
- Connected real-world professional experiences to social work education and career development.
- Provided meaningful examples of crisis intervention and de-escalation with children and families.
- Shared useful insight into administrative and supervisory social work roles.
- Introduced students to doctoral research, the institutional review process, and original research.
- Encouraged students to consider career mobility and continued professional growth.
- Students indicated that they would recommend Dr. Bazemore-Jolly for future classes and student programming.

Topics Students Would Like to Explore Further

Current Director Role

- Typical daily responsibilities and workflow.
- Quality assurance responsibilities and administrative decision-making.
- Supervision of staff and social work interns.
- Leadership challenges and program operations.
- The transition from direct practice into a director-level position.

Career Development and Research

- The steps she took to advance from early-career social work roles into leadership.
- Professional strengths and areas of growth she has experienced as a social worker.
- Additional discussion of her doctoral research on the CROWN Act and the lived experiences of Black women wearing their natural hair.
- How students can begin identifying research topics and opportunities that connect policy, identity, bias, and social work practice.

Suggestions for Future Presentations

Technical Preparation	Students noted some technical difficulties during the session. A brief technology, sound, and connection check before the presentation begins may help create a smoother experience and maximize student participation.
Communication About Presentation Changes	If the planned presentation format or content changes, please communicate that change in advance when possible. A structured list of questions had been prepared based on the intended presentation and student learning interests. Advance communication would allow the instructor to incorporate those questions into the session and ensure students still receive the information they were hoping to explore.
Additional Time on Current Practice	Students would benefit from additional discussion of Dr. Bazemore-Jolly's current leadership role, including the day-to-day responsibilities of directing an outpatient program serving at-risk children.

Student Recommendation

Would students recommend this speaker for future programming?	■ Yes ■ No

Students supported inviting Dr. Bazemore-Jolly to engage with future social work students. They particularly valued her ability to connect professional experience, leadership, crisis intervention, research, and career development in an engaging manner.

Faculty Comments

Thank you, Dr. Bazemore-Jolly, for sharing your professional journey and experiences with our Field Seminar III students. Your discussion provided meaningful exposure to direct practice, leadership, supervision, crisis intervention, doctoral research, and professional development. Students were especially engaged by your career journey and by your encouragement to continue pursuing opportunities that support professional growth. We appreciate your contribution to our students' learning and professional development.